GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1394
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2007
ASIATIC SOCIETY OF MUMBAI
Deora Shri Milind Murli

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any representation regarding recognition of Asiatic Society of Mumbai as an institution of national importance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government provided any financial assistance to the Asiatic Society of Mumbai for the preservation of rare books and construction of museum to the Library; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Ministry has received several proposals for grant the status of `Institution of National Importance` to the Asiatic Society, Mumbai. In this connection Shri C.K. Chaitdrappan, M.P. Lok Sabha had moved a Private Members Bill titled `The Asiatic Society of Mumbai Bill 2005` for the same purpose.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. Government of India had in the past given a corpus fund of Rupees two crores to the Society during 1994 for its various activities. An annual Plan grant of Rs.20.00 lakhs has been made to this Society during the past few years which has been increased Rs.25.00 lakhs from the financial year 2006-2007. Ministry is ready to assist the Society by giving it Project based grants to enable it to carry out its aims and objectives.